

Amendment to the Claims:

- Claim 27 (Previously presented) A process for preparing an oil suitable for use as a lubricating oil base stock comprising:
- a) sulfiding a dewaxing catalyst comprising a molecular sieve having 1-D pores with a pore diameter of between about 5.0 Å and about 7.0 Å, and at least Group VIII metal; and thereafter
 - b) contacting a waxy feed over the catalyst contained in step a) at a pressure of from about 15 psig (103 kPa) to about 2500 psig (13.8 Pa) to partially dewax the feed by converting between 80% to 97% of the wax contained in the waxy feed thus producing an isomerized oil having a pour point of at least 6°C above a target pour point; and, thereafter
 - c) solvent dewaxing the isomerized oil obtained in step b) to produce a lubricating oil base stock having a viscosity index of greater than 140, a target pour point of less than or equal to -20°C and a branching index of less than 1.75.
- Claim 28 (Previously presented) A process for preparing an oil suitable for use as a lubricating oil base stock comprising:
- a) pre-sulfiding a dewaxing catalyst comprising a molecular sieve having 1-D pores with a pore diameter of between about 5.0 Å and about 7.0 Å, and at least Group VIII metal; and thereafter

- b) contacting a waxy feed over the catalyst contained in step a) comprising a molecular sieve at a pressure of from about 15 psig (103 kPa) to about 2500 psig (13.8 MPa) to partially dewax the feed by converting between 80% to 97% of the wax contained in the waxy feed thus producing an isomerized oil having a pour point of greater than about 0°C; and, thereafter
- c) solvent dewaxing the isomerized oil obtained in step b) to produce a lubricating oil base stock having a pour point of less than or equal to -10°C, a viscosity index of greater than 140 and a viscosity, measured at 100°C, of about 3 cSt or less and a branching index of less than 1.75.

Claim 29 (Previously presented) A process for preparing an oil suitable for use as a lubricating oil base stock comprising:

- a) sulfiding a dewaxing catalyst comprising a molecular sieve having 1-D pores with a pore diameter of between about 5.0 Å and about 7.0 Å, and at least one Group VIII metal; and thereafter
- b) contacting a Fischer-Tropsch waxy feed over the catalyst obtained in step a) at a pressure of from about 15 psig (103 kPa) to about 2500 psig (13.8 MPa) to partially dewax the feed by converting between 80% to 97% of the wax contained in the waxy feed thus producing an isomerized oil having a pour point of at least 6°C above a target pour point; and, thereafter

- c) solvent dewaxing the isomerized oil obtained in step b) to produce a lubricating oil base stock having a viscosity index of greater than 140, a target pour point of less than or equal to -20°C and a branching index of less than 1.75.

Claim 30 (Previously presented) A process for preparing an oil suitable for use as a lubricating oil base stock comprising:

- a) pre-sulfiding with H₂S a dewaxing catalyst comprising a molecular sieve having 1-D pores with a pore diameter of between about 5.0 Å and about 7.0 Å, and at least one Group VIII metal; and, thereafter
- b) contacting a Fischer-Tropsch waxy feed over the catalyst obtained in step a) comprising a molecular sieve at a pressure of from about 15 psig (103 kPa) to about 2500 psig (13.8 MPa) to partially dewax the feed by converting between 80% to 97% of the wax contained in the waxy feed thus producing an isomerized oil having a pour point of greater than 0°C; and, thereafter
- c) solvent dewaxing the isomerized oil obtained in step b) to produce a lubricating oil base stock having a pour point of less than or equal to -10°C, a viscosity index of greater than about 140 and a viscosity, measured at 100°C, of about 3 cSt or less and a branching index of less than 1.75.

Claims 31 and 32 (Canceled) Without prejudice.